

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sterilization cassette having a generally flat two dimensional top cover, a pair of opposing side walls, a pair of opposing end walls, a bottom wall, and a pair of opposing latch assemblies, each of said pair of opposing side walls being fixedly attached to edges of said bottom wall and oriented essentially perpendicular to said bottom wall and said opposing end walls, each of said opposing latch assemblies located on one of said pair of opposing side walls, each of said opposing latch assemblies having at least one latch detent, said top cover connected to said cassette by a double hinge assembly, said double hinge assembly comprising:

a first horizontally oriented hinge portion interconnected to an end wall and said top cover, said first horizontally oriented hinge portion dividing said end or side wall into upper and lower halves; and

a second hinge portion oriented in juxtaposed relationship to said first hinge portion dividing said top cover into two interconnected pieces wherein the piece of the top cover attached to said end wall or side wall is of the same width and length as the end wall or side wall to which the cover is attached to by means of the first hinge;

whereby said double hinge assembly allows said top cover to alternatively lay flat upon a same surface which said bottom wall also rests upon, or to be folded beneath said bottom wall;

said pair of opposing latch assemblies configured so as to allow said top cover to be moved from a closed position to an open position only after opposing pressure has been applied to both of said opposing latch assemblies;

said sterilization cassette further having a plurality of extensions attached to said top cover, said extensions extending away from said top cover, said extensions being oriented essentially perpendicularly to said top cover, said bottom wall, and said pair of opposing end walls, each of said extensions being configured to overlap and contact a portion of one of said pair of opposing side walls when said top cover is in said closed position, said extensions being further configured to be of a greater height than said top cover when said top cover is laid flat upon said same surface upon which said bottom wall also rests[.], said extensions being still further configured to tip said bottom wall to a nonhorizontal angle when said top cover is folded beneath said bottom wall and said sterilization cassette rests upon a horizontal surface.

2-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) An assembly of two hinges for use on a container having a generally flat two-dimensional top, a bottom, pairs of opposing sides, and a pair of opposing latch assemblies, at least a first pair of opposing sides being fixedly attached to edges of said bottom and oriented essentially perpendicular to said bottom and perpendicular to a second pair of opposing sides, said pair of opposing latch assemblies located on said first pair of opposing

sides, wherein one of said pair of opposing latch assemblies is located on one side of said first pair of opposing sides while another of said pair of opposing latch assemblies is located on another side of said first pair of opposing sides, each of said opposing latch assemblies having at least one latch detent, said assembly of two hinges comprising:

 a first hinge pivotally connected to a side or top of said container, said first hinge also pivotally connected to a hinge plate, said hinge plate having a length and a width; said hinge plate pivotally connected between said first hinge and a second hinge; said second hinge pivotally connected to said hinge plate and to said cover; said first hinge, said second hinge and said hinge plate configured and interconnected so as to allow said second hinge to be moved from a closed position to a first open position wherein said second hinge is located within the same general horizontal plane as said top and said bottom as well as the same general vertical plane as said first hinge, said assembly further allowing said top to be moved from this first open position to a second open position wherein said top is folded beneath said bottom of said container;

 said pair of opposing latch assemblies configured so as to allow said second hinge to be moved from said closed position to said first position only after opposing pressure has been applied to both of said opposing latch assemblies

 said container further having a plurality of extensions attached to said top, said extensions extending away from said top, said extensions being oriented essentially perpendicular to said top, said bottom, and said second pair of opposing sides, each of said extensions being

configured to overlap and contact a portion of said first pair of opposing sides when said top is in said closed position, said extensions being further configured to be of a greater height than said top when said container is in said first open position[.], said extensions being still further configured to tip said bottom to a nonhorizontal angle when said top is in said second open position and said container rests upon a horizontal surface.

26. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein said hinge plate is a portion of said top of said container.

27. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein the length of the hinge plate is equal in length to the length of one of the opposing sides.

28. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein the width of the hinge plate is equal in width to the width of one of the opposing sides.

29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein the width of the hinge plate is equal in width to one half of the width of one of the opposing sides.

30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein said hinge plate contacts a portion of one of said opposing walls when said second hinge is placed in said first

open position.

31. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges of claim 25 wherein said hinge plate contacts a portion of one of said opposing walls when said top is folded beneath said bottom.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The sterilization cassette of claim 1, wherein each of said extensions defines an aperture configured to receive therein one of said latch detents.

34. (Previously Presented) The sterilization cassette of claim 1, wherein each of said extensions is of a height essentially equal to said opposing side walls' height and said opposing end walls' height when said top cover is laid flat upon said same surface upon which said bottom wall also rests.

35. (Previously Presented) The sterilization cassette of claim 1, wherein said top cover has a front edge, a back edge, and two side edges, said back edge being connected to said first horizontally oriented hinge portion, said front edge being arranged on said top cover opposite of said back edge, and said extensions extending away from said top cover proximate to said front edge.

36. (Previously Presented) The sterilization cassette of claim 1, wherein said extensions are non-pivottally attached to said top cover.

37. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges for use on a container of claim 25, wherein each of said extensions defines an aperture configured to receive therein one of said latch detents.

38. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges for use on a container of claim 25, wherein each of said extensions is of a height essentially equal to said opposing sides' height when said container is in said first open position.

39. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges for use on a container of claim 25, wherein said top has a front edge, a back edge, and two side edges, said back edge being connected to said first hinge, said front edge being arranged on said top opposite of said back edge, and said extensions extending away from said top proximate to said front edge.

40. (Previously Presented) The assembly of two hinges for use on a container of claim 25, wherein said extensions are non-pivottally attached to said top.